

RFP RESPONSE

DUPAGE COUNTY, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



PROFESSIONAL ON-CALL NATIVE VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT (VARIOUS SITES)

Primary Contact



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PROJECT UNDERSTANDING & APPROACH OVERVIEW

RFP RESPONSE

V3 respectfully submits this response to the DuPage County's request for native vegetation management services at several mitigation properties throughout DuPage County.

PREQUALIFICATIONS

V3 is prequalified with DuPage County in Natural Resources Management.

V3 is prequalified with IDOT in both selective clearing and vegetation spraying

Having successfully provided services for this contract over the past two years, V3 has worked with the County team to develop a mutual understanding of the project goals and the resource requirements for executing the necessary work. As with any ecological restoration project, it's important to evaluate site conditions over a period of time to determine the most effective tasks and methodology to reach the defined goals.

V3 staff has developed a familiarity with many of the project locations and has come to understand the unique challenges they present. Critical to achieving the project goals is not only the execution of the field work, but the ability to effectively communicate with DuPage County staff so the appropriate follow-up tasks are scheduled and budgets are maintained.

Based on V3's level of experience with this contract we can provide a high level of efficiency and cost effectiveness to the project. V3's ecological restoration staff is comprised of senior ecologists, botanists, project managers, and restoration professionals who are passionate about native restoration. The V3 field office is located in Villa Park IL and proves to be a very central location for addressing needs in DuPage County.

V3 will continue to utilize an experienced team of restoration ecologists and construction professionals to execute the required activities. All work is performed with "in-house" crews and equipment. Typical maintenance activities will include chemical and mechanical weed control, seeding, native planting, prescribed burning, woody debris removal, erosion control installations, irrigation and mowing.



SUMMARY OF SIMILAR PROJECTS

ON-CALL NATIVE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT 2018-2019 | DUPAGE COUNTY - V3 was responsible for responding to requests from DuPage County for providing services such as chemical and mechanical weed control, invasive woody removals, vegetation mowing, and native seeding. V3 worked with the County to assist in evaluating the most cost-effective methods for treating invasive species. By making field observations V3 staff were able to provide the county with monitoring current site conditions and offer insights into future management recommendations.





SUMMARY OF SIMILAR PROJECTS

NATURALIZED BASIN MANAGEMENT & ECOLOGICAL CONSULTING

| VILLAGE OF ROMEVILLE - In 2009, V3 performed an initial ecological site inspection for Village-owned natural areas and naturalized stormwater management facilities. Since then, V3 has performed various services for the Village-related to designing, managing, restoring and monitoring natural areas and naturalized stormwater management facilities. In addition, V3 performs annual maintenance, monitoring and reporting services for all Village-owned naturalized stormwater management facilities. Project sites include:

- Century Park is a naturalized stormwater detention basin totaling 3.7 acres. The natural area consists of native shallow emergent wetland surrounded by a narrow prairie buffer strip.
- Lakewood Estates is a naturalized stormwater detention basin. The site is located within the Lily Cache Slough and positioned between the Haley Meadows naturalized detention basin to the west, Mather South Preserve to the east, and O'Hara Woods State Nature Preserve to the south. The site is 15.40 acres in size. It has 6.5 acres of open water with an emergent wetland shoreline surrounded by 8.9 acres of wet-mesic prairie.
- Poplar Ridge is comprised of two naturalized detention basins. Both basins combined have 0.9 acres of prairie, 2.2 acres of wetland and 0.3 acres of turf grass surrounding them.
- Volunteer Park is a naturalized stormwater detention basin totaling 1.37 acres. It is comprised of emergent wetland vegetation.

WEST BRANCH FOREST PRESERVE WETLAND, FEN & RIVER

RESTORATION | DUPAGE COUNTY - This complex, multi-year project involved the restoration of a more than 330-acre area within a forest preserve including a one-mile section of the West Branch of the DuPage River, 158 acres of wetlands, a 34-acre fen and adjacent prairie and savanna communities. Project goals included improving stormwater management, enhancing aquatic and terrestrial habitat and reducing invasive species pressure to allow native communities to establish. The river restoration posed a daunting challenge, requiring a solution that involved diverting the existing river while accommodating 100-year storm event volumes. V3 restored the river in phases, building lined diversion channels along the length of the river, addressing erosion issues, stabilizing the banks and enhancing wetland hydrology by connecting the river to the floodplain. V3 is conducting three years of ecological maintenance and monitoring.

DUPAGE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT WIDE

MANAGEMENT | DUPAGE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

V3 provides on call services in the magnitude of approximately 3000-man hours per year across over 50 project sites within DuPage County. Services provided include; hand herbicide application, ATV boom spraying, selective woody removals, chipping, brush pile burning, maintenance of landscaped planting beds, tractor mowing, planting, seeding and irrigation. V3 works very closely with the Forest Preserve to ensure that resources are made readily available and prioritized for fast response times. V3 has extensive experience maintaining high profile planting beds such as the Forest Preserve Headquarters.



KEY PROJECT PERSONNEL

PROJECT DIRECTOR

MIKE FAMIGLIETTI, P.E. | PROJECT DIRECTOR | 27 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE - Mike has more than 25 years of experience in the construction industry with expertise in the management and execution of ecological, site development and infrastructure projects.

PROJECT MANAGER

ANDREA PINI | PROJECT MANAGER/ECOLOGIST | 10 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE - Andrea is a Project Manager responsible for performing all activities related to native area planning and creation. Her expertise includes yearly restoration plan creation and floristic site design, as well as planning of maintenance, design, site monitoring and project management. Andrea directs restoration activities, communicating directly with clients and assisting with the planning, direction and implementation of ecological management activities. Her restoration experience includes restoration and improvements to streams, wetlands, woodlands and prairies.

FIELD OPERATIONS MANAGER

JOE SMRT | FIELD OPERATIONS MANAGER | 6 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE - Brad actively manages all field operations and assists with project management responsibilities. He provides quality control for the execution of all field tasks, supervises the work being executed and also participates in the completion of the work. He is responsible for executing all field activities and allocating the appropriate resources to the project including personnel, equipment and materials.

HERBICIDE APPLICATORS & OPERATORS

HERBICIDE APPLICATORS & HERBICIDE OPERATORS - All of our field operations team members have a valid State of Illinois Pesticide Applicator and/or Operator License.

PRESCRIBED BURN MANAGER

BRAD MILLIS | PRESCRIBED BURN MANAGER | 12 YEARS EXPERIENCE - Brad is responsible for ongoing site management and monitoring of many of V3's wetland mitigation and restoration projects. Brad conducts and supervises ecological management activities including native planting/seeding, selective woodland thinning, herbicide application, and prescribed burns. Brad has a valid Illinois Certified Prescribed Burn Manager Certificate issued by IDNR and has successfully completed NWCG S290 training.

PRESCRIBED BURN SPECIALISTS

PRESCRIBED BURN SPECIALISTS - All members of our burn crew have a working knowledge and understanding of basic prescribed burn principles and fire suppression principles. Members who have successfully completed the National Wildfire Coordinating Group S130 and S190 training courses or the Chicago Wilderness Midwest Ecological Prescription Burn Crew Member training course include Craig Mack, Joe Smrt, Carolyn Villa, Chris Mack, Dan Jablonski, Adam Rea, Drew Anderson, Nathan Barnett and Andrea Pini.





DETAILED PROJECT UNDERSTANDING & APPROACH

PROJECT MANAGEMENT - The project manager assigned to this project will continue to be Andrea Pini as she has managed this contract over the past two years. Her knowledge of the various sites, the process for executing and tracking tasks, and her working relationship with DuPage County staff will ensure continued progress and success in achieving site specific goals. She has a thorough understanding of the expectations, both to the quality of the services provided and the timely manner in which they are executed. Andrea is very familiar with serving the county by providing feedback regarding observations made on project sites and proposing cost effective solutions. The resources of senior ecologists and other professionals that are resident within V3 are available to the project and will assist in providing site evaluations and suggestions for any site-specific needs (i.e. seed mixes, methodology to promote growth and establishment, etc.).

EXECUTION - The work execution process has been refined over the past two years. Andrea regularly checks the shared spreadsheet with the county that details requests for work. She then creates an internal work order, assigns a due date, and continues follows up with V3's Field Operations Manager to ensure that the deadline will be met.

WHY CHOOSE V3? - Main attributes that separate V3 from other firms include being uniquely equipped with a wide array of service areas that include native restoration, wetland permitting, survey, heavy civil and other engineering services. One of V3's core values is its dedication to its clients. Specifically, on this project that entails ensuring ample resources being dedicated to all of the "on call" requests in order to respond expediently, providing professional observations and recommendations on project areas, and keeping internal floristic and management records on project sites.

OUR PROMISE - V3 will dedicate a crew of Field Ecologists lead by a Senior Field Ecologist having at least five years of experience to this project. When needed V3 is prepared to dedicate more resources to execute work and can guarantee a response time of less than two weeks. All work will be conducted in an efficient manner and in the event that there is a circumstance that may inhibit maximum efficiency, Andrea Pini will communicate with the county and jointly develop plan to proceed. Field Ecologists working on this project report directly to Andrea Pini, the Project Manager. In the event of an escalated issue, Andrea will be notified of the circumstance and will immediately contact the County representative.

